

achievement gaps; (4) other accreditation indicators related to academic excellence; and (5) parent/community satisfaction. The John Irwin School of Excellence award is truly a distinguished honor as only nineteen schools in Colorado, including Liberty Common School and five other charter schools, received the award this year.

Founded in 1997, Liberty Common School students have consistently performed near the top of state test scores in almost all grades and subjects. The third grade CSAP reading scores for 2001 placed 100 percent of all Liberty Common School third graders at or above proficiency. In comparison, only 72 percent of the state's third graders and 81 percent of the school district's third grade students achieved similar levels of reading proficiency.

Liberty's success can be attributed to its locally controlled educational program, dedicated teaching staff and committed parents. The school bases its academic curriculum on the Core Knowledge Sequence, a classical liberal curriculum encompassing the subjects of language arts, history, geography, mathematics, science and fine arts. Liberty parents are given the opportunity to help shape specific curriculum components and class requirements—a level of parental involvement not found in most traditional public schools. I commend Liberty Common School's Headmaster, Joe Ricciardi, and the school's committed board of directors, teachers and parents for their dedication and sacrifice, which has been critical to the school's success.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for this opportunity to celebrate the recent recognition of Liberty Common School as a recipient of the John Irwin School of Excellence award. Liberty Common School's academic achievement serves as an example to this body of why we should continue to promote greater educational choices for parents and children across this country.

80TH BIRTHDAY OF MRS. JEAN PAULE

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 1, 2001

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Jean Paule of Los Angeles, California. I would like to acknowledge Jean Paule on the occasion of her 80th birthday. After completing a distinguished career at Occidental College in Los Angeles, she made a historic journey across America.

She has visited the birthplace and library of every United States President. I would like to commend her on this most historic and patriotic journey. In addition to her travels throughout the United States, she has visited every continent of the world, including Antarctica.

I wish her well in her future journeys as she continues to travel and serve as the Historian of Occidental College.

TRIBUTE TO THE PEOPLE OF THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKSTAN

HON. ROBERT WEXLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 1, 2001

Mr. WEXLER. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the people of the Republic of Kazakhstan who celebrated their tenth year of independence as a nation on October 25, 2001. This important occasion highlights Kazakhstan's economic, political, and cultural growth over the past decade. In light of the many difficulties facing the people of Kazakhstan following the collapse of the Soviet Union, this resourceful nation of over fourteen million people has persevered by overcoming numerous obstacles to emerge as one of Central Asia's most dynamic nations.

As the people of Kazakhstan continue the process of building their nation on the foundation of democracy and economic liberalization, they should know that the United States will be there to assist them in their efforts. Following the barbaric attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001, the government of Kazakhstan immediately offered its unconditional assistance to the United States in our fight against the international scourge of terrorism. Their heartfelt support for the American people in our greatest time of need has only served to strengthen United States-Kazakhstan relations.

The future success of a democratic and free Republic of Kazakhstan will directly benefit the United States by helping to create stability and increased prosperity in the Central Asian region. Many of the nefarious international terrorist organizations, like al Qaeda, that seek to inflict harm on the United States and our allies are also trying to destabilize Central Asian nations like Kazakhstan. The United States and the international community must not miss this opportunity to assist Kazakhstan as she takes courageous steps to build a democratic society with an open market economy in a region of the world that is rife with terrorism and discord.

Fortunately, Kazakhstan has brought much needed stability to the region. As a moderate and tolerant Muslim nation, Kazakhstan, has already joined like-minded nations in Central Asia and the Middle East in opposing the use of Islam for terrorist purposes. As Kazakhstan's President Nursultan Nazarbayev said on October 24th before the eighth session of the Assembly of the Peoples of Kazakhstan, "In the current situation, it is more important to separate Islam from terrorism. The terrorists whatever slogans they use have nothing in common with Islam, its basic commandments, including non-violence, justice, tolerance and equity."

Mr. Speaker, I wish the people and government of the Republic of Kazakhstan the best success as they build on their impressive accomplishments of the past decade. As a Member of the House International Relations Committee, I join many Americans in celebrating the tenth year of Kazakhstan's independence and look forward to increased cooperation and relations with this emerging Central Asian nation.

COMMENDING THE JEFFERSON COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. ANNE M. NORTHUP

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 1, 2001

Mrs. NORTHUP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the hard work and dedication of the Jefferson County Police Department as they received the 2001 "Civil Rights Award for Racial Profiling" from the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

The Jefferson County Police Department has served as an outstanding example to our community and the rest of Kentucky as they have fought to make Louisville a safe and secure environment. With the help of new In-Car Video cameras, made possible by the generosity and confidence of this Congress, the police officers of Jefferson County have carried out their duties faithfully and reliably and have earned the international recognition they were awarded yesterday in Toronto, Ontario.

While In-Car Video Cameras have truly enhanced the police work conducted in Jefferson County, cameras were only the first step. It has been the diligent work of Chief Carcara and his department that has improved overall cooperation between the police and the community. They have implemented a proactive program that has successfully sought to reduce civil rights violations while promoting public trust and confidence in policing. Their efforts have even been recognized by the local paper, the Louisville Courier-Journal, stating, "The willingness of the Jefferson County police department to monitor itself for evidence of racial profiling is heartening . . ."

Now more than ever, it is important that we, as a Congress and as a nation, recognize and applaud the efforts of local police departments, such as that in Jefferson County, who work tirelessly every hour of every day to make our communities as safe as possible. As our nation strives to define a new "normal" and seeks ways to cope with the tragedies that have befallen us in the last two months, we must remember and commend those who choose to spend their lives protecting all Americans. They are the true heroes, and deserve our unbridled gratification.

Thank you, Jefferson County Police Department, for all you do for our community. You have earned this award, as well as our trust and gratitude.

H.R. 3204, THE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PROTECTION RESTORATION ACT OF 2001

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 1, 2001

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, today, I join Representative COBLE in introducing the Intellectual Property Protection Restoration Act of 2001. Introduction of this legislation coincides with introduction of a companion bill in the Senate by our distinguished colleague, Senator PATRICK LEAHY. These bills will rectify a serious inequity in intellectual property protection resulting from recent Supreme Court decisions.

These recent decisions held that, under the Eleventh Amendment of the United States Constitution, states have sovereign immunity in state and federal courts against money damages suits for intellectual property infringements. The Supreme Court came to this conclusion despite unequivocal Congressional intent to abrogate state sovereign immunity through enactment of the Copyright Remedy Clarification Act (CRCA), Patent Remedy Act (PRA), and Trademark Remedy Clarification Act (TRCA) in 1992.

While immune from suit for money damages when they infringe the intellectual property rights of others, states can still secure protection for their own patents, copyrights, and trademarks under federal law, and can sue infringers of their rights for money damages. I believe it is a serious inequity to allow a State to sue infringers of its intellectual property rights when the State itself can infringe the rights of others with impunity.

Last month, the GAO released a study entitled "Intellectual Property: State Immunity in Infringement Actions." This report provides strong evidence of the need for the legislation we introduce today.

Since 1985, at least 58 intellectual property lawsuits have been brought with a State as one of the defendants, and a larger number have been settled out of court. It is important to note that when these suits occurred, it was largely assumed, or explicitly mandated in federal law, that states were subject to suit for intellectual property infringement. While I do not believe states will become rampant, willful infringers as a result of the recent Supreme Court decisions, it is reasonable to assume that the incidence of State infringements will increase. Conversely, the dramatically growing patent, copyright, and trademark portfolios of State entities foretell a corresponding increase in intellectual property suits brought by States. In other words, the facts indicate that the inequity will increase as time progresses unless Congress takes action.

As I noted, Congress previously passed legislation to correct the inequity created by State immunity from suit for intellectual property infringements, and the Supreme Court struck down these Acts on constitutional grounds. The legislation my colleagues and I introduce today represents a well-considered attempt to correct the identified inequity in a constitutionally permissible manner.

Senator LEAHY, Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, and his staff deserve the greatest measure of credit for their hard work in developing this legislation. Also deserving credit are the many constitutional scholars, policy advocates, and government agencies that contributed their time, thoughts, and drafting talents to this effort.

I am pleased that a consensus emerged among the various collaborators in support of the "waiver" approach embodied in the legislation. During a hearing before the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Courts and Intellectual Property last summer, I opined that the "waiver" approach appeared the best mechanism to rectify the inequity in our intellectual property laws. By creating a "waiver" requirement—that is, requiring a State to waive its sovereign immunity from suits for intellectual property infringement in order to secure the ability to bring such suits itself—we avoid constitutional pitfalls and still manage to create an even playing field for all intellectual property owners.

Though we developed this bill in a highly collaborative and deliberative manner, I by no means maintain that it is a "perfect" solution. Thus, I will remain open to suggestions for amending the language to improve its efficacy or rectify any unintended consequences. However, I am firmly committed to moving this legislation during the remainder of the 107th Congress.

TRIBUTE TO THE SHEET METAL
WORKERS LOCAL #20 OF GARY,
INDIANA

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKEY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 1, 2001

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to congratulate some of the most dedicated and skilled workers in Northwest Indiana. On November 2, 2001, in a salute to their workers' durability and longevity, the Sheet Metal Workers Local #20, of Gary, Indiana, will honor their members with fifty, forty, and twenty-five years of continued service. These individuals, in addition to the other Local #20 members who have served Northwest Indiana so diligently for such a long time, are a testament to the proto-typical American worker: loyal, dedicated, and hard-working.

The men and women of Local #20 are a fine representation of America's working families. I am proud to represent such dedicated men and women in Congress. The Sheet Metal Workers Constitution states, "... to establish and maintain desirable working conditions and thus provide for themselves and their families that measure of comfort, happiness and security to which every citizen is entitled in return for his labor, from a deep sense of pride in our trade, to give a fair day's work for a fair day's pay." For fifty years, the following individuals have followed this creed: Robert Molnar, Eugene Rucker, and Leland Thompson. In 1961, Donald Odell and Gerard Wardell began their own forty years of membership in the Sheet Metal Workers trade union. In addition to the great service and dedication displayed by the fifty and forty-year Sheet Metal Workers Local #20 members, the individuals with twenty-five years of continued service that will be honored include: Bruce Bassett, Richard Beres, Michael R. Birky, Randall Bohn, George Fedorchak, Joseph P. Lain, Nancy Fields, James P. Fredianelli, Jeffrey R. McClelland, Paul Popa, Jay K. Potesta, Mark E. Williams, and James A. Zimmer. I would also like to congratulate those individuals that graduated from the Residential Apprenticeship program. These individuals include: William Aicher, Jason Atwood, Brian Bajda, Daniel Elkins, Daniel Geeding, Timothy Howard, Richard Mann, Rober McGuire, David Mostello, Daniel Nelson, Shawn Novak, Mark Rehtorik, and William Wolfe.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating these dedicated, upstanding members of the Sheet Metal Workers Local #20 for their hard work in fulfilling the "American Dream." I offer my heartfelt congratulations to these individuals, as they have worked arduously to make this dream possible for others. They have proven themselves to be distinguished advocates for the labor movement, and they have

made Northwest Indiana a better place in which to live and work.

AN AMERICAN YOUTH DAY CELEBRATION—ANCIENT CITY KIDS' DAY, ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 1, 2001

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, in April, I introduced a resolution to encourage communities nationwide to observe an annual American Youth Day. In June the U.S. House of Representatives passed that legislation by unanimous vote.

American Youth Day seeks to promote local and national activities that fulfill the five promises of America's Promise—the Alliance for Youth, which was founded by Secretary of State Colin Powell. America's Promise calls for a concerted effort from every segment of society to address the most notorious difficulties facing the youth of America. The five promises to America's youth include (1) fostering ongoing relationships with caring adults; (2) providing safe places with structured activities during non-school hours; (3) building a healthy start and future; (4) teaching marketable skills through effective education; and (5) providing opportunities to give back through community service.

This past Saturday, the Fourth Congressional District hosted its own version of American Youth Day as part of St. Augustine's Ancient City Kids' Day in St. Augustine, Florida. St. Augustine's Ancient City Kids' Day brought together children's service agencies and businesses in celebration of the St. Johns County's commitment to the well-being of its children. Our nation's oldest city showed its youngest citizens how special they are.

I was proud to join over 50 organizations that provided information for parents and fun and games for the children. Ronald McDonald was there to make us laugh. Lisa Mack emceed entertainment provided by Pak's Karate Club and the Saints Cheerleading Squad. The Puppet Man put on shows, the Junior Women's Club helped children make hats, and the Communities in Schools program held a basketball tournament and read stories to youngsters.

The St. Johns County Sheriff's Office, the Fire Department and EMS all had equipment displays for the more than 3,500 visitors to view and admire. Other groups, like EPIC Community Services and Project Northland, had marble painting, baseball tosses and an obstacle course. It was a carnival atmosphere founded on family fun.

St. Johns Ancient City Kids' Day is exactly the type of event that we need across America to highlight our children and the groups and individuals who give of their time and money to guide them.

I salute our nation's oldest city on their unselfish commitment to our youth and challenge all the great cities in America to establish their own youth day celebrations.